

**Claim Amendments:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A microscope comprising:
  - a basic body ~~[[which]]~~ comprising at least one microscope objective and at least one eyepiece~~[[,]]~~ ;
  - a beam path defined by the at least one microscope objective and the at least one eyepiece~~[[,]]~~ ;
  - at least one beam splitter ~~being provided in~~ insertable into the beam path between the at least one microscope objective and the at least one eyepiece, wherein the at least one beam splitter is configured to allow a choice between reflecting ~~reflects~~ a portion of ~~[[the]]~~ light out of the beam path ~~to the eyepiece or reflects~~ and reflecting images into the beam path going to the at least one eyepiece~~[[,]]~~ ;
  - a carrier on which the at least one beam splitter is mounted~~[[,]]~~ ; and
  - a recess in the basic body into which the carrier together with the at least one beam splitter are insertable and removable.
2. (Currently Amended) The microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the carrier is fitted into the recess with sufficiently small tolerances ~~[[in]]~~ such ~~[[a way]]~~ that after insertion, the at least one beam splitter is aligned relative to the beam path without the need for further alignment.
3. (Currently Amended) The microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the carrier comprises on its end facing away from the at least one beam splitter a coupling onto which various microscope accessories can be mounted.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A ~~microscope as defined in Claim 3,~~ comprising:
  - a basic body comprising at least one microscope objective and at least one eyepiece;

a beam path defined by the at least one microscope objective and the at least one eyepiece;

at least one beam splitter being provided in the beam path between the at least one microscope objective and the at least one eyepiece, wherein the at least one beam splitter reflects a portion of light out of the beam path or reflects images into the beam path going to the at least one eyepiece;

a carrier on which the at least one beam splitter is mounted; and

a recess in the basic body into which the carrier together with the at least one beam splitter are insertable and removable,

wherein the carrier comprises on its end facing away from the at least one beam splitter a coupling onto which various microscope accessories can be mounted,

wherein the carrier is insertable into the recess of the microscope rotated 180 degrees about an axis perpendicular to the beam path, so that the at least one beam splitter ~~[[are]]~~ may be used, in one configuration, for reflecting in and, in another configuration, reflecting out.

5. (Original) The microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the microscope is a surgical microscope.
6. (Currently Amended) The microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the microscope further comprises a plane-parallel plate, the plane-parallel plate being held on a carrier and having an optical path length corresponding to that of the at least one beam splitter, and wherein the microscope is configured so that the plane-parallel plate is insertable into the beam path when no beam splitter is inserted into the beam path of the microscope, ~~there is inserted into the respective recess a plane-parallel plate, held on a carrier, whose optical path length corresponds to that of the beam splitter.~~
7. (Currently Amended) The microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the at least one beam splitter has ~~[[a]]~~ an optical property of being at least one of intensity-specific, wavelength-specific ~~[[or]]~~ and polarization state-specific.

8. (Currently Amended) The microscope as defined in Claim 7, wherein the at least one beam splitter is configured as a splitter ~~prisms~~ prism.
9. (Currently Amended) The microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein at least one further optical ~~components~~ component is mounted on the carrier and the further optical ~~components comprise~~ component comprises at least one of filters and compensation elements.
10. (Currently Amended) The microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the carrier is configured to transmit ~~comprise a coding that transmits~~ to a control unit information about ~~[[the]]~~ a microscope accessory optically connected to the beam path.
11. (Currently Amended) The microscope as defined in Claim 10, wherein the microscope is configured to perform ~~control unit performs~~ an adaptation of the microscope on the basis of the ~~coding~~ information.
12. (Currently Amended) The microscope as defined in Claim 1, wherein the microscope is a ~~[[A]]~~ stereo microscope comprising:
  - ~~a basic body which at least one microscope objective and at least one binocular eyepiece,~~
  - a first beam path and a second beam path defined by the at least one microscope objective and the at least one eyepiece~~[[,]]~~ ;
  - a first beam splitter and a second beam splitter insertable ~~being provided~~ in ~~[[each]]~~ the first and second beam ~~path between the microscope objective and the eyepiece paths,~~ respectively, wherein the beam splitters each reflects ~~reflect~~ a portion of the light out of the beam path ~~to the eyepiece~~ or reflects images into the beam path going to the at least one eyepiece~~[[,]]~~ ;
  - a first carrier and a second carrier on which the first and second beam ~~splitter is~~ splitters, respectively, are mounted~~[[,]]~~ ; and
  - a first and second recess in the basic body which releasably take up the ~~earrier~~ together with the beam splitter first and second carriers in the first and the second beam ~~[[path]]~~ paths.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The stereo microscope as defined in Claim 12, wherein the first carrier comprises on its end facing away from the first beam splitter a first coupling onto which various microscope accessories can be mounted.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A stereo microscope ~~as defined in Claim 14,~~  
comprising:

a basic body comprising at least one microscope objective and at least one binocular eyepiece;

a first beam path and a second beam path defined by the at least one microscope objective and the at least one eyepiece;

a first beam splitter and a second beam splitter being provided in the first and second beam paths, respectively, wherein the beam splitters each reflects a portion of the light out of the beam path or reflects images into the beam path going to the at least one eyepiece;

a first carrier and a second carrier on which the first and second beam splitters, respectively, are mounted; and

a first and second recess in the basic body which releasably take up the first and second carriers in the first and the second beam paths,

wherein the first carrier comprises on its end facing away from the first beam splitter a first coupling onto which various microscope accessories can be mounted,

wherein the first carrier is insertable into the first recess of the microscope rotated 180 degrees about an axis perpendicular to the first beam path, so that the first beam splitter ~~[[are]]~~ may be used, in one configuration, for reflecting in and, in another configuration, reflecting out.

16. (Currently Amended) The stereo microscope as defined in Claim 14, wherein the second carrier comprises on its end facing away from the second beam splitter a second coupling onto which various microscope accessories can be mounted, wherein ~~different~~ a first microscope accessories are inserted into the first and second beam path accessory

is mounted on the first coupling and a second microscope accessory, different from the first microscope accessory, is mounted on the second coupling.

17. – 24. (Canceled)

25. (New) A microscope comprising:

- a basic body comprising at least one microscope objective and at least one eyepiece;

- a beam path defined by the at least one microscope objective and the at least one eyepiece;

- at least one intensity beam splitter being provided in the beam path between the at least one microscope objective and the at least one eyepiece, wherein the at least one intensity beam splitter is configured to at least one of reflect a portion of light out of the beam path and reflect an image into the beam path going to the at least one eyepiece;

- a carrier on which the at least one intensity beam splitter is mounted; and

- a recess in the basic body into which the carrier together with the at least one intensity beam splitter are insertable and removable.

26. (New) A microscope comprising:

- a basic body comprising at least one microscope objective and at least one eyepiece;

- a beam path defined by the at least one microscope objective and the at least one eyepiece;

- at least one beam splitter being provided in the beam path between the at least one microscope objective and the at least one eyepiece, wherein the at least one beam splitter is configured to at least one of reflect a portion of an image out of the beam path and reflect an image into the beam path going to the at least one eyepiece;

- a carrier on which the at least one beam splitter is mounted; and

- a recess in the basic body into which the carrier together with the at least one beam splitter are insertable and removable.

27. (New) A microscope comprising:

a basic body comprising at least one microscope objective and at least one eyepiece;

a beam path defined by the at least one microscope objective and the at least one eyepiece;

at least one beam splitter being provided in the beam path between the at least one microscope objective and the at least one eyepiece, wherein the at least one beam splitter is configured to reflect an image into the beam path going to the at least one eyepiece;

a carrier on which the at least one beam splitter is mounted; and

a recess in the basic body into which the carrier together with the at least one beam splitter are insertable and removable.

28. (New) A microscope comprising:

a basic body comprising at least one microscope objective and at least one eyepiece;

a beam path defined by the at least one microscope objective and the at least one eyepiece;

at least one beam splitter being provided in the beam path between the at least one microscope objective and the at least one eyepiece, wherein the at least one beam splitter is configured to reflect a portion of an image out of the beam path for at least one of detection by a light detector and observation by an observer;

a carrier on which the at least one beam splitter is mounted; and

a recess in the basic body into which the carrier together with the at least one beam splitter are insertable and removable.

29. (New) The microscope as defined in Claim 28, wherein the at least one beam splitter is configured to reflect said portion of an image out of the beam path for detection by said light detector.

30. (New) The microscope as defined in Claim 28, wherein the at least one beam splitter is configured to reflect said portion of an image out of the beam path for observation by an observer.